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Blooming with health for it appears to be a very healthy place  
blooming with business for it is all life & energy blooming with  
prosperity for additional buildings & improvements are going up every  
day we got our luggage safely removed removed from one depot to the  
other which was a mile & had it checked this is an highly important  
piece of business as I am now going to show a young man that came  
up with us from New York who as the common observation is was  
not so sharp as he should be or not quite compass mentos he did not  
think it worth while to trouble about a check at Chicago & consequently lost  
his all which he had packed in a large trunk & to make the matter  
worse he goes to a lawyer to recover it ~~for~~ him Oh yes says the  
Lawyer I have often been engaged in business of that kind & have always  
been successful & for the trifling sum of 5 Dollars I will faithfully  
engage to get your trunk in 2 day but the 2 day arrived but the  
trunk never arrived thus the young man lost his trunk & 5 Dollars  
through not securing a check we left Chicago in the night &  
travelled on through Joliet & many other places till we arrived at  
Alton & from there we took Steam boat & sailed up <sup>to</sup> the city of  
St Louis which might be called the city of Steamer for when you  
cast your eye upon them first they appear out of number - we were  
surrounded by a vast quantity of summer carmen & Hotel men  
earnestly soliciting our patronage I soon engaged a carman & had my  
luggage on board the Sam Cloon & then the passengers got mixed more  
closely together & become more acquainted with each other - I should  
have observed that at St Louis many of the passengers with myself  
availed ourselves of the opportunity of purchasing many articles  
which was absolutely necessary for the outfit of a squatter  
& here I would remark that I found St Louis one of the Cheapest